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03/16/2004

David K. Biegelsen

117364

1293

65575 7590 05/12/2009

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EXAMINER

OLANIRAN, FATIMAT O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/6/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues pg. 3-4, "Moreover, one having ordinary skill in the art would not have predictably combined the teachings of Pompei with the teachings of Kino....such piezoelectric transducers in the acoustic transducer array to achieve an optimal acoustic transducer surface area, thereby significantly increasing the cost of manufacture." In contrast, Kino is directed to an electronically focused imaging system specifically adapted for piezoelectric crystals to be used as acoustic transducers (see col. 6, lines 38-53). Thus, one having ordinary skill in the art would not have combined the audio system of Pompei with the piezoelectric transducer configuration of Kino with any reasonable degree of success."

Examiner respectfully disagrees; arguments with regards to cost of manufacture and assertions regarding the cited art are not enough to overcome the propriety of the 103 rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FATIMAT O. OLANIRAN whose telephone number is (571)270-3437. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:00-6 EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FO

/Vivian Chin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614